## Delicate Edgar

## Princess Jepson

the grandfathers, grandmathers, uncles, cousins, and aunts of the Princess, ended by saying, with menning, "What a model she will be to the little girls of the neighborhood!"

The spirit of Erebus was high, not by any means one to brook the paned at one another in an equal surtinonght of a model nearly two months police.

Surprise did not rob the Terror of his politicess; he smiled amiably and tion that the coming of the Princess and in his most agreeable tone, "How was but a phase of the German fava- do you do?" England from sea to sea with fire and Princess had seen; and he was not going to make admission of guilt by a

When presently the Princess came to When presently the Princess came to hasty, and perhaps accelless, flight, the Grange, the lively caries by her an line a little baughtly, hesitating, "What perfect vision of her. She did not as are you doing up there?" they had expected, attend any of the "I'm looking at the garden," said the three churches, for she had brought Terror truthfully, but not quite accu-with her her own Lutheran pastor, rately, for he was looking much more They only saw her on her afternian at the Princess, drives, a stiff little figure, thickly veiled against the sun, sitting bolt upright in the victoria beside the crim-son baroness terimson in face; she wore black) in whose charge she bad come to England.

They had learned presently that the Princess had come to Muttle Deeping for her health; that she was delicate, and her doctors feared lest she should develop consumption; they hoped that a summer and autumn in the excellent Deeping air would strengthen her.

to raid the famous peach-garden of Muttle Deeping Grange. Their mother was out of sorts; and Dr. Arbuthnot inner had ordered her to eat plenty of fruit. Peaches were the best fruit in season; and the peaches in the Grange garden were said to be finer than any peaches grown in a hothouse. The Twins had never been able to believe that the The Twins had laws of Meum and Tuum applied to

It was in the afternoon, a sweltering afternoon, after the doctor's visit : and the Twins were about to set forth on their bleycles, without any goal in nd, when a sudden gleam came into the deep blue eyes of the Terror, and

"I've got an Idan." An answering light gleamed in the rown eyes of Erobus; and she cried "Thank goodness! I was beginning to think that a thing was ever to occur to us again! It must he the hot weather! "Those Germans," said the Terror

slowly. "Why shouldn't we make a raid on the Grange penches?"
"Rather!" cried Erebus; and her piquant face was all alight with stirring spirit. Then after a pause she added reluctantly, "But if the Princess is an invalid, perhaps she wants

them herself. "She can't want all of them. said the Terror, "And they're the very thing for Mam. Plum are all well; but one gets tired of them. "But how are we going to get into the garden? The door in the wall only opens on the inside," and Erebus thoughtfully

We're not," raid the Terror, "Hurry up and get some leaves to put between the peaches. Mun will like them better with the bloom on, though it really foesn't make any difference to the Erebus ran into the kitchen garden;

and when she came back, she found the Terror tying a small landing-net to backbone of his bleyele. She put the leaves into her bleyele-basket; and they rode slowly to Muttle Deeping. Twins knew the country round thoroughly; and they came imseen long the serven of the home wood to the fringe of trees which runs along the walled garden behind the Grange. Phat fringe of trees was indeed use ful; standing on a low branch of one of them, the Terror raised his head

enutiously above the wall and surveyed the garden. A dancing shimmer of heat rose above the fruit trees, trained It was empty and silent save for a curious snoring sound which dis-quieted him little, since he ascribed it

some distant pig He stepped on to a higher branch. leaned over the wall and surveyed the olden burden of the tree below him. He chose his peach, the ripest he could see, slipped his net under it, fileked it, and lowered it down to Erebus

The garden was not as empty as the the little lawn to the middle of it sat by the thick wall of a trained but he len't now. at, or rather sprawled, her guar Man, cess.

noon to tea gushing information about the heat, she rose and walked quietly the grandfathers, grandmothers, un- to the end of the wall of peny-tree. As she came beyond it, she found, leaning over the wall a fair-haired boy. He was bringing the not over the

wall again; but at the sight of her he whipped it back again; and they gamed at one another in an equal sur-

He did not know how much the

She gazed at him, her brow knitted in a little perplexed frown. She thought that he had been taking the penches, but she was not sure; and his screne, guildless face, and limpid blue

eyes gave the suspicion the lie.

He gazed at her with growing interest and approval; as much approval as one could give to a girl. The Frincess one could give to a girl. The Frincess of the county of the decay and though her pale cheeks were as little hollow, and the line from the a little hollow, and the line from the allow of the wood (the main paths of the with gave you'd never ask them," But you'd one w

impatient weariness. breeze blowing over the said the Terror.

at one another with curious eyes.
"I tell you what: come out into the You'd find it very refreshing," said the

The Princess looked back trresogarden feel better than ever.
"Do come. My sister's here; and it

will be very jolly in the wood-the training," he said rather sadly. three of us." said the Terror in his most persuasive tone. Princess hesitated, and again

she looked back at the sleeping, but unbeautiful, Baroness: then she said with a truly German frankness: "Are you well-born?"

haughtly; and he said Well, from what Mrs. Blenkinsop said, the Dangerfields were barons in the Weald before there were any Ho-

cast back one more look at the sleepthe garden wall. When she came brough it she found the Twins wheelduced Erebus to her as Violet Anastasia Dangerfield and himself as Hya-cluth Wolfram Dangerfield. He gave their full, and so little used names. princess etiquette demanded It. Then moved along the fringe of trees and turned into the wood. The Twins slow. She kept looking from one to and jacket, you'd be coole the other with curious, rather think, the Terror rather quickly,

When she told them that she had not been in the home wood before, the of pleasure. She had quite lost her Terror cried in surprise, "But it's the air of discomfort and boredom. jelliest part of the whole estate!

"But I always stay in the gardens, the sound of a distant voice crying out.

The Baroness Von Aschersleben cannot walk far; and she does not like Terror; and he said, "They've missed me to be out of sight of her."

The time supplied away, and there cannot be sound of a distant voice crying out.

It first caught the keen ear of the you. I suppose you'll have to be get-"You must get awfully slack," said

Sinck? What is slack?" said the "She means weak-not able to run

fast or far." said the Terror. "But I never run. It is not dignified. The Baroness would be shocked," said the Princess.

"No wonder you're delicate," said Erebus, politely trying to keep a touch of contempt out of her tone, and fall-"One cannot help being delicate."

said the Princess.
"I don't know." said the Terror, doubtfully. "If you're in the open air Princess K-tzabeth, hidden from delicate. Wiggins used to be delicate;

"Who is Wiggins?" said the Prin-



From a drawing by Maginel Weight Snright

CHACINES !- SHE INVIOLED AND

"WHAT A MODEL SHE WILL BE FOR THE OTHER LITTLE GIRLS OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD"

a summer and autumn in the excellent Deeping air would strengthen her. The news abated a little the cold loss tillty of Erebus.

But the fact that she was one of the people which was going to sweep England with fire and sword was not with and with fire and sword was not with railed the fact of the Thins girden's very hot," he said, the fact of the color of the main paths of the wood (the main paths of the wood were not affected by the paths of the wood (the main paths of the wood were not affected by the people which was going to sweep England with fire and sword was not with the fact that she was one of the people which was going to sweep England with fire and sword was not with the fact that she was one of the people which was going to sweep England with fire and sword was not with the fact that she was one of the people which was going to sweep England with fire and sword was not with the fact of the circumstance of the chine. They were not on one of the main paths of the wood (the main paths of the wood (the main paths of the wood (the main paths of the wood were not affected by the almost triangular. It was a pretty face. Twins), and the narrow path they is like the tills have one when I'm in England come to feel that she was charmed even day.

The Princess was charmed even day.

The Princess, klssing for like that. I always have one when I'm in England come to feel that woods were not affected by the almost triangular. It was a pretty face.

They were not on one of the main paths of the wood (the main paths of the wood was not with the Illustration.

The Princess, said Erebus again firmly.

The Princess was charmed even day.

The Princess was charmed to make the Tcrov with the file the cold has the said to Erebus:

The suppose were not affected b

The Princess sighed; and they gazed the trunk of a tree, and said, "I'll help With that, dismissing etiquette from his mind, he slipped his arm round the that she had been walking in the slender waist

firmly hauled her to the top of the He relieved her of most of the bank. lutely at the sleeping Baroness. The effort needed to mount it; but none sight of her crimson face made the the less she reached the top panting a effort needed to mount it; but none "You certainly aren't in very good A faint flush of mortification man-

tled the pale cheeks of the Princess; and the faintly contemptuous compasslon in the eyes of Erebus deepened it. "I could get quite strong, wanted," she said with some beat, "Then I should. It's much nicer to

The Terror in his turn smiled a lit- be strong" said Erebus in a tone of slowly, finality.

henzollerns. And they did very well their goal, the banks of a small pool, at Creey and Aglucourt, too," he They sat down in a row; and the They sat down in a row; and the Princess looked at its cool water, in The Princess seemed reassured; she the cool green shade of the tall trees, further annoyed that Miss Lambert with refreshed eyes, "This is different," she said.

"Yes, this is the real open air," said the Terror. ing their bicycles toward it. The Ter- "But I do get lots of open air," pro-ror in a very dignified fashion intro- tested the Princess. "Why I sleep with my window open—at least that much." She held out her two forefingers some six inches apart. Baroness did not like it. because he felt that in the case of a buthnot insisted. I think I sleep better. We have our bedroom windows as wide open as they'll go and then

they're not wide enough," said Erebus hartened their strides to suit the pace in a tone of superiority.

If the Princess which was uncommonly "I think if you took off your hat jacket, you'd be cooler still," said The Princess took off her hat and

jacket and breathed another soft sigh The time slipped away; and there came

"You take too much notice of that Baroness." said Erebus. "I don't see were about to go for their annual together. It is being a Princess, if you change of air and she would notionger be under his invigorating care.

"It was hard to be existed to the socret."

The next morning the Twins bought this Princess's camping outfit at Row-ton the strength of the socret. The next morning the Twins bought this Princess's camping outfit at Row-ton the strength of the strength of the socret. The next morning the Twins bought the strength of the socret. The next morning the Twins bought the strength of the socret. The next morning the Twins bought the strength of the socret. The next morning the Twins bought the strength of the socret. The next morning the Twins bought the strength of the socret. The next morning the Twins bought the strength of the socret. The next morning the Twins bought the strength of the socret. The next morning the Twins bought the strength of the socret. The next morning the Twins bought the strength of the socret. The next morning the Twins bought the strength of the socret. The next morning the Twins bought the strength of the socret. The next morning the Twins bought the socret. The next morning t

think we were good for you. people round here don't seem to understand us," said the Terror snavely. The Princess looked from one to the

heart; and he said politely:

The Terror stopped, looked at her bank and take you to the edge of the they began surmounting these, dismayed face, set his bicycle against wood," said the Terror. "The difficult thing is not to

to the simple, if incomplete, statement Princess and wood. His last words to her were: "Don't you stand so much nonsense

from that Baroness." The Princess joined Miss Lambert: and she did confine herself to the statement that she had been walking in the wood. The Terror returned to Erebus and found her stretched at her ease, eating a peach.

"I should have liked one a good deal sooner," he said as he took one from the basket. "But I didn't like to say anything about them. She mightn't have understood."

The seed sown in the mind of the Princess forthwith bore fruit. That very night when she was suppling, with hauled up his blcycle. They went a attendance, she said that she wanted their goal, the wood and reached some ope to play with with thoughtless quickness said that it was an excellent idea. But the Baroness annoyed by the suggestion, and had welcomed it, protested vehemently; where were the well-born ones in D. epings fitted to be the mates of a Princess of Cassel-Nas-

Dr. Arbuthnot was consulted: and he said at once that from the point of view of well-bornness, the Twins were undoubtedly the right children of the neighborhood to play with the Princess (if always/they could be induced to play with a little girl), but he doubted the wisdom of exposing an impressionable Princess to the influence of such free and ardent spirits. The Baroness had no doubt at all about the unwisdom of doing so. In the end Wiggins was selected for the honorable post.

In the matter of play the Princess schoold have had to buy you a bathing now led a double life. She spent the dress anyhow," he said. "There's a early part of the afternoon with the pool just under the Knoll." early part of the afternoon with the Twins and with peaches in the woods. and from tea to supper she played morning, and transport it to the camp with Wiggins. Between them, she was with their own. The question of Wigbeginning to acquire muscle; and her gins, who had always been a frequen

elender means of Mrs. Dangerfield. To they consented to take with them as make up to them for this deprivation, many blankets as Mrs. Dangerfield they were allowed to encamp for ten thought needful. That night they days, if the weather were fine, in the support and and are the most respectively. other, hesitating with puckered brow, days, if the weather were fine. In the supped and slept at the Knoll, and then, with a touch of appeal in warm sandstone caves of Deeping. It is hardly too much to say the tone, she said, "Are you—are you Knoll, which rises in the middle of had come to adore the Terror. days, if the weather were fine in the supped and slept at the Knoll warm sandstone caves of Deeping It is hardly too much to say that she descend every afternoon to the home

"She wouldn't," said Erebus darkly.

But to her unadventured soul the difThen she rose and with clearled fists.

But to her unadventured soul the difThen she rose and with clearled fists.

But to her unadventured soul the difThen she rose and with clearled fists.

But to her unadventured soul the difThen she rose and with clearled fists.

But to her unadventured soul the difThen she rose and with clearled fists.

But to her unadventured soul the difThen she rose and with clearled fists.

But to her unadventured soul the difThen she rose and with clearled fists.

But to her unadventured soul the difThen she rose and with clearled fists.

But to her unadventured soul the difThen she rose and with clearled fists.

But to her unadventured soul the difThen she rose and with clearled fists.

But to her unadventured soul the difThen she rose and with clearled fists.

But to her unadventured soul the difThen she rose and with clearled fists.

But to her unadventured soul the difThen she rose and with clearled fists.

But to her unadventured soul the difThen she rose and with clearled fists.

But to her unadventured soul the difThen she rose and with clearled fists.

But to her unadventured soul the difThen she rose and with clearled fists.

But to her unadventured soul the difThen she rose and with clearled fists.

But to her unadventured soul the difThen she rose and with clearled fists.

But to her unadventured soul the difThen she rose and with clearled fists.

But to her unadventured soul the difThen she rose and with clearled fists.

But to her unadventured soul the difThen she rose and with clearled fists.

But to her unadventured soul the difThen she rose and with clearled fists.

But to her unadventured soul the difThen she rose and with clearled fists.

But to her unadventured soul the difThen she rose and with clearled fists.

"The difficult thing is not to get you He half carried her down the steep there, but to keep you there," said the kiss bim!" bank, adjuring her to confine herself Terror thoughtfully. "You see, I've The drov got to go down there every day for cess sat up. Her gray eyes darkened milk and things and they're sure to and sparkled. She had never made a ask me if I've seen anything of you. Of course I can't lie about it; and they'll not only take you away, but they'll probably turn us out of the

"That's the drawback," said Erebus A deep frown furrowed the Terror's Erebus; and she ground her teeth. brow; and he said; "If only you weren't a princess, they wouldn't make half such a fuss hunting for you; and I might never be asked anything about

"I shall come to the camp incognito

of course." said the Princess.
The Terror looked puzzled for a mo ment; then his face cleared into a glo rious smile; and he cried: "By Jove! Of course you would! I never thought Why you'd be somebody else and not the Princess at all! We shouldn't know where the Princess was "I generally travel as the Baroness

yon Zwettel," said the Princess. "Yes: I suppose you would have to have a title—but not that one. I think un English one would be best: Lady Rowington now-no one will ask us if we know Lady Rowington, because

they won't know there is any Lady Rowington.' They were quick deciding that the Princess should not join them till the second night of their stay in camp, to give them time to have everything in order. Then they discussed her needs. She could not bring away with her any clothes. She must share the wardrobe of Erebus. But the Princess interposed; why

should they not buy her things? She had plenty of money. She drewfrom her pocket seigns in it. Terror looked relieved: "We

They decided to buy her outfit next wisitor to the camp, occupied them but

at but a short distance from home, path through the wood was narrow since a visit to the sea was beyond the and steep. It was the first year that

The Twins looked at one another their friend Mr. Anstruther, the moments his care for her never re-ubtfully; then the appealing face Squire of Little Deeplag. Kind-hearted laxed. He rubbed the ache out of her the Princess touched the Terror's as the Twins were, they felt that to brulses; he plastered her scratches.

should have seen it! The Princess marked his trouble, and sau. Miss Lambert found the walk suid in a tone of distress, "Don't you through the quiet woods with the like me to kiss you?"

In the Princess marked his trouble, and sau. Miss Lambert found the walk suid in a tone of distress, "Don't you through the quiet woods with the light-hearted Sir Maurice refreshing

The Terror swallowed the lump of horror in his thront, and said faintly

the others"

The Princess rose obediently. But the ice was broken; and the kisses of the Princess if not frequent, were at any rate not rare. The Ter-ror at first endured them; then he Discretion and kisses, however, have and absorbed; and even as the dis-no natural affinity; and without their coverers gazed at them, the Terror knowing it, Wiggins became aware of kissed the Princess.

The drowsiness fied; and the Prinface in her life; it is quite probable that she was ignorant that faces were made; but quite naturally she made a hideous face at Erebus, and said: "I

"If you do, I'll smack you!" cried "He won't let you; and if you do, he'll smack you-much harder.' the Princess confidently.

Had the Princess been standing up. Erebus would have smacked her then and there; but the Princess was sitting safely down. Erebus growled in throat, turned on her heel, and dashed away in seach of the Terror. She came upon him dragging a fallen bough up to the Knell for firewood. "I know all about your kissing the

Princess! I never heard of such silly babyishness!" she cried in a tone of the fiercest contempt. The shame-faced Torror blushed; then he turned brazen:

uside into the wood.

"You mind your own business!" he did firmly. "It isn't babyish at all! sold firmly. She's asked me to marry her; and I'm going to-so there!" In the face of this situation Erebus found herself utterly helpless; she wrung her hands and turned sharply

Then followed a period of strain. Erebus assumed an attitude of haughty contempt toward the errant pair. She devoted herself to Wiggins, and let them coldly alone. It is to be feared that the kisses, having been forbidden, became sweeter and more frequent. It was at this juncture that Sir Maurice Falconer, the uncle of the from the very beginning taken a dif-ferent view of the disappearance of the Princess from that of the rest of

the world. It was his habit to ascribe any uncommon event which occurred in the Deepings to his nephew and niece. When then he first read in his Morning Post of that disappearance, Twins again!" He was confirmed in his opinion by the sight of a reproduction of the Socialist Manifesto in an enterprising halfpenny paper. But Sir Maurice was not a man to interfere .ightly, and he was busy

enough with many lunches, race-meetings, dinners, dances, and suppers to postpone his intervention till sixth day, when every Socialist Organization from San Francisco to Japan was loudly disavowing any compliwith the crime, and the diplomatists and newspapers of Germany and Engfashion which forbode war. He felt that the time had come to ease the in-

ternational situation. With that end in view, he went down to Little Deeping, and learned from going to have some one to Mrs. Dangerfield that the Twins were and I'm not going to atmobruises; he pinstered her scratches. Mrs. Dangerfield that the Twins were and I'm not going to stand any more the saw to it that she came out of the camping out on Deepit, Knoll. Then, nonsense from the Baroness."

flushed and gazed round the woods After so many hours of the plaints of with horror-stricken eyes: if anyone the crimson Baroness, the stout Prince and stouter Chancellor of Cassel-Nas

horror in his throat, and said faintly but gallantly: "Yes—Oh. rather."

"Then kiss me," said the Frincess simply, snuzgling closer to him.

The despairing eyes of the Terror swept the woods; then he kissed her gingerly.

"I aw ford of you you know," said faintly but as they came up to the Knoll itself, they hushed their voices and came very quietly. Their caution was rewarded. They had stolen to within thirty yards of one of its lower caves when Sir Maurice stopped, beckened miss Lambert forward, and drawing aside a servening because they are the control of the Knoll itself. "I am fond of you, you know," said aside a screening branch, displayed the Princess in a frankly proprietary the missing Princess.

It was an idyllic scene. The Prin-The Terror's scattered wits at last cess and the Terror were tting worked. He rose to his feet and said against a bank on the further side of quickly: "Yes. Let's be getting to the glade, in the shade of a tall tree. Their bare legs were very brown against the green turf; an arm of the Terror was round the waist of the Princess, and an arm of the Princess was round the Terror's neck. Her golden hair flowed over his shoulder. came rather to like them. But he and mingled with his fair curis. They strictly enjoined discretion on her, were talking in low voices, animated

the practice.

The confidence between the Twins Maurice let the screening branch fall. had always been so full that he was "It—it seems rather a pity to dis-

Good afternoon, your Highness. I have come to take you back to the Grange" said Miss Lambert

"I'm not going," said the Princess, "But I'm afraid you must," said Miss Lambert. "No," said the Princess; and she sa

down on the bank and crossed her The Terror nodded to his uncle with an amiable smile, and put his hands

"But—but if you don't come, we shall have to carry you," said Miss Lambert, frowning in some perplexity. "I don't see how you can." said the Terror, in his most agreeable tone. "You can't touch a Princess, you know; it would be lese-majesté. She's told me all about it."

The perplexity spread from the face of Miss Lambert to the face of Sir Maurice Falconer; he smiled appre-But he said: ciatively. this won't do. Terror, don't you know Her Highness will have to come?"

her. The only person who could use force is the Prince himself; and I don't think he could be got up to the Knoll. He's too heavy. I've seen him. And if you did get him up, I don't really think he'd ever find her in these caves," said the Terror in the dispasstonate tone of one discussing an entirely impersonal matter.

"Anyhow I'm not going," said the Princess with convincing dramess. "And why should she go?" said the Terror in the same dispassionate tone. She came to England to improve her health; and she is improving it here You can see how improved it is. She eats nearly as much as Erebus."

"She has certainly changed," said Miss Lambert rather tartly, for truly she had not found the same meek and mild Princess

"The Twins have a transforming effect on the young," said Sir Maurice in a resigned tone.

Sir Maurice and Miss Lambert reurned to the Grange with their story. After furies of indignation and many vaporous threats, the Prince found ilmself compelled by the steepness of the Knoll, and the caves with which Nature had so thoughtfully honey-combed it, to let his daught r have her way. But that was not till after Sir Maurice and Miss Lambert had made several pleasant but futile journeys through the woods, bearing other terms. They found the part of peram-bulating envoys agreeable indeed; and they were quite willing that the negotiations should be prolonged over the rest of the summer. The only concession they could wring from the in-accessible Princess, or, to be exact, from the Terror, was that she would return to the Grange if the weather broke. Her last firm words after the final settlement were:

"Please tell papa that I'm always